

JAN 12 1977

THE CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF ART
ARTIST BIOGRAPHY

Please complete and return the following questionnaire for our reference file on Cleveland Artists.

FULL NAME: AUGUST F. BIEHLE
6906 Renwood Drive, Parma, Ohio 44129

DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH:
January 13th 1885

PRIMARY MEDIA Painting

ART TRAINING - Schools, Scholarships, etc.:

1900-1903 Apprentice to his father as decorator.
1903-1905 Kunst Gewerbe Schule, Munich, Germany; 1908-1910 Academy, Munich, Germany
studied with Mr. Jank and Mr. Julius Dietz; Studied in Paris;
1910-1914 Employed Sherwin-Williams as demonstrator; 1914 Lithograph apprentice in
lithography at Otis Litho.Co., at Morgan Litho.Co., also Continental Litho.Co.
Studied at Cleveland School of Art; Cleveland polytechnic; New York Art Students League;
Cleveland Society of Artists; Kokoon Club; Henry Keller and other private teachers;
Max Weber, summer of 1956 at Bowling Green Univ.

EXHIBITIONS IN WHICH YOUR WORK HAS BEEN SHOWN:

Exhibited in first 25 May Shows, and was accepted most of the other years' May Shows.
First prize in Water Color, Zoar Scene 4th May Show. Other prizes other years.
Cleveland Museum of Art; Parma Art League; Cleveland Public Library; Whitney Art
Gallery, New York City; Butler Institute Art Gallery; Youngstown, Ohio;
Baldwin-Wallace Art Gallery, Berea, Ohio; Women's City Club, Cleveland, Ohio
Fenn College Library 2/7/62; Parma Regional Library; Regional Gallery, N.Y.City;
WPA Project, Ohio Canal picture and map Cleveland Public Auditorium;
and numerous other galleries.

COLLECTIONS WHICH NOW INCLUDE YOUR WORK:

Cleveland Museum of Art; Mr. & Mrs. Jonathan Alder; Mr. & Mrs. Fred Biehle;
Parma Public Library; Mrs. Otto Hirzel; Mr. & Mrs. Scharles Scott;
Mr. & Mrs. Orrel P. Reed; Mr. & Mrs. Richard Gerding; Parma Community Hospital;
Mr. Joseph Erdelac; Mr. Richard Sedlon; Mr. & Mrs. Chas. Whittier; Mrs. J.R. Lawson.

AWARDS:

First, second and third prizes, and honorable mentions in May Shows.
First Fine Arts Award at 1961 Festival in Southwest Area, Parma.
1976 Award on Art, Parma Sesqui-Bicentennial Recognition, Exec. Committee
on Art as contributing to Art in Parma over the years.

PRESENT POSITION: Retired.

We would appreciate any information regarding subsequent awards, purchases, exhibitions and scholarships.
Thank you for your cooperation.

August Biehle was born in Cleveland in 1885. Biehle apprenticed with his father as a decorator at Rohrheimer Brooks, Inc. Together they painted interiors of homes of prominent persons in Cleveland, Chicago, and Cincinnati. In 1903, Biehle traveled to Paris and the Kunst Gewerbe Schule in Munich to study art. On his return to Cleveland in 1905, he worked for Sherwin-Williams and then formed his own decorating company. He later returned to Germany and studied at the Royal Academy in Munich. When Biehle returned to Cleveland, mass-produced wallpaper was in vogue and eliminated the demand for skilled artisans of his type. He turned to lithography and produced posters and program covers for the Cleveland Playhouse. He was a prominent Cleveland painter frequently exhibiting at the May Show and was included in the 50th anniversary exhibition at The Cleveland Museum of Art. In 1975, the Education Department of the Museum selected his work as part of "A Study in Regional Art". Biehle painted for 70 years and died on February 9, 1979.

Biehle, August

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See also:

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Obituaries

August Biehle, 94; May Show exhibitor, painter for 70 years

PD 9 Feb 79 C-13

August F. Biehle, 94, of Parma, a painter for 70 years and regular exhibitor at May Shows, died Wednesday at Parma Community Hospital after a brief illness.

Services will be at 3 p.m. tomorrow at Ridgewood United Methodist Church, 6330 Ridge Rd., Parma.

Born in Cleveland, Mr. Biehle apprenticed with his father as a decorator at Rohrheimer Brooks Inc. Together they painted interiors of homes of prominent persons in Cleveland, Chicago and Cincinnati.

In 1903, Mr. Biehle left to study art in Paris and at Kunst Gewerbe Schule in Munich.

On his return to Cleveland in 1905, he worked for Sherwin-Williams Co. and then formed his own decorating company. He later returned to Germany and studied at Fine Arts Royal Academy in Munich.

When Mr. Biehle returned to Cleveland, mass-produced wallpaper was in vogue and eliminated the demand for skilled artisans of his type. He turned to a career in lithography.

From 1913 to 1952, he worked for Continental Lithograph Corp. here, producing commercial posters.

When the Cleveland Play House was founded, Mr. Biehle designed the covers for Play House programs. He also created covers for two Cleveland art magazines,

Bystander and Cygnet. He joined the Turnverein and Kokoon Clubs.

Mr. Biehle was a prodigious painter of portraits, still lifes and landscapes.

He became a member of the "Cleveland School" — a group of local painters including Henry Keller, Frank Wilcox, George Adomeit and Paul Travis. They painted together in summers.

Mr. Biehle's paintings were regularly selected for the May Show and frequently earned prizes. After exhibiting at 25 May shows, the Cleveland Museum of Art awarded Mr. Biehle Emeritus Nonjury Entrant status. He continued to exhibit until two years ago.

The Cleveland Museum of Art selected his work for inclusion in its 50th anniversary exhibition. In 1975, when the museum's department of education and art history presented a show called "A Study in Regional Art," some of his paintings were displayed.

In the 1920s and 1930s, Mr. Biehle spent time painting landmarks in the German separatist community, Zoar, in Tuscarawas County. Some of them were used to illustrate Sunday magazine articles in The Plain Dealer.

Mr. Biehle is survived by his wife, Mary; daughters, Marie Scott and Reta Alder; a son, Frederick; 10 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

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land culture, as a many times May Show exhibitor, a
orker for the Cleveland Playhouse in its earliest
days and as a patron to musical programs. Besides
several one-man shows in the past year he's in the
Artists and Craftsmens current offering at the Cleve-
land Engineering Society. Sun-Press 2-6-64

but he won the first
fine arts award for
doing the most for
in the Southwest

studied at art school
with Frank Wilcox,
Paul Travis and George Ad-

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Pa. Dr.
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of Michigan, Cecil B. Dunlap,
Retail Clerks, is conference
chairman.